



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/702,297 )  
)  
Filed: November 6, 2003 )  
)  
For: MECHANISM FOR )  
SWITCHING BETWEEN CLOSED )  
CENTER AND OPEN CENTER )  
HYDRAULIC SYSTEMS )  
)  
Applicant: HARWATH et al. )  
)  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned )  
)  
Attorney Ref: 913/40666/306 )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 4, 2004.

*Tiffany E. Sexton*  
Tiffany E. Sexton

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement and the attached Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date and before receipt of the first Office Action on the merits and constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 exists, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

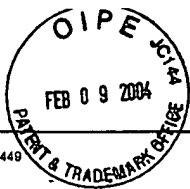
Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 4, 2004

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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449  
(Rev. 2-83)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 913/40666/306

SERIAL NO. 10/702,297

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Harwarth et al.

FILING DATE: November 6, 2003

GROUP Not Yet Assigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2 3 8 9 6 5 4	11/27/45	Van Der Werff			
	3 6 9 4 8 3 9	10/03/72	Loblick			
	3 8 8 2 8 8 3	05/12/75	Droegemueller			
	4 2 5 6 4 3 3	03/17/81	King			
	4 3 6 6 6 7 3	01/04/83	Lapp			
	4 2 7 3 0 2 9	06/16/81	Sheppard			
	4 5 4 8 2 2 9	10/22/85	Johnson			
	4 5 8 9 4 3 7	05/20/86	Zeuner et al.			
	4 8 6 0 6 4 6	08/29/89	Spiers			
	5 4 4 2 9 9 2	08/22/95	Sanner et al.			
	5 7 7 8 7 5 5	07/14/98	Boese			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION Y N

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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